

**A Statistical Report and Analysis of New Church Growth in the WELS**

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In 1960, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod had 827 congregations and 346,790 baptized members in 16 states. In 2009, the Wisconsin Synod had 1,279 congregations and 389,545 baptized members in 48 states. In that fifty years God has given our synod some wonderful opportunities to preach law and gospel and win souls for his kingdom in places where we were not doing that before. This paper seeks to organize a record of those new opportunities to preach law and gospel and the new souls won for God's kingdom.

### **A caution**

When looking at statistics or any record of the past it can be easy to see the successes as something we can take credit for. While we may be the instruments God uses, it is important to remember that we are only clay jars and that God gets credit for all the success. The WELS has grown over the last fifty years, but not from our own abilities or strengths. The WELS has grown because God's Word and the Sacraments are living and active. May he alone get the honor and praise for the successes.

### **How this paper was put together**

Most of this paper is a listing of our WELS churches and their current baptized membership. My original intent for this paper was to find a record of any new area that we had done any mission work in over the last fifty years and find out what the results of those mission efforts were. I ran into the problem that the definitions for the types of work done have changed a lot over the years. For example, what exactly defined a preaching station has changed over the last fifty years. Sometimes they received funding and sometimes they did not. Sometimes they received man power and sometimes they did not. Sometimes they were allowed to officially organize as a congregation and other times they were not. Because it was not always clear exactly what was happening in a given area it would be misleading to categorize it. Therefore to get a more accurate view of our new church efforts over the last fifty years, I

decided to include only congregations that were officially organized. Most of these churches received some type of synod support. Where they did not, it has been noted.

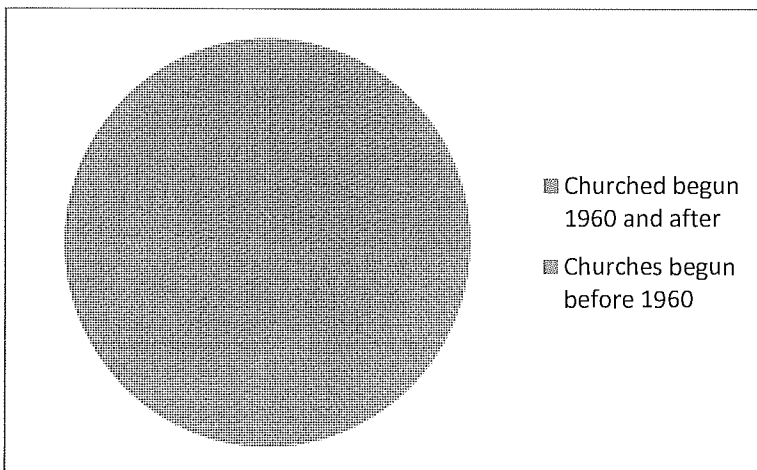
The sources for this paper include the 1960 through 2009 Statistical Reports of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod and also Synodical and District Convention Proceedings. When there was differing information among these documents I went with the information from the latest statistical reports unless there were several documents that showed the latest statistical report may have been wrong. Other information was gleaned from church websites and personal e-mails.

### Why 1960?

I decided to begin my statistical search with 1960. The reason for this was twofold. The first is that fifty years is a good round number to work with. The second is that after the WELS break with the LCMS in 1961 there was a concern that we would lose many WELS members by transfer to another synod because we did not have WELS churches spread out across the nation. For this reason new church starts were begun in areas and in numbers that our synod had not done before.

### Current WELS membership

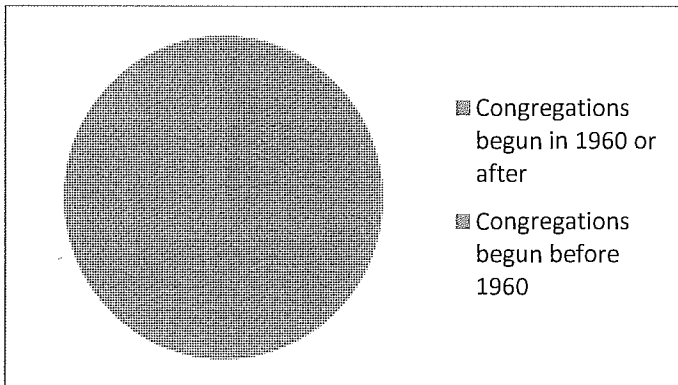
Under the grace of God, WELS new church efforts since 1960 have produced congregations that care for 98,602 souls. These churches make up 25.7% of the membership in the WELS.



Current Membership	
Membership in churches begun 1960 and after	100,408
Membership in churches begun before 1960	289,137

**Current WELS congregations**

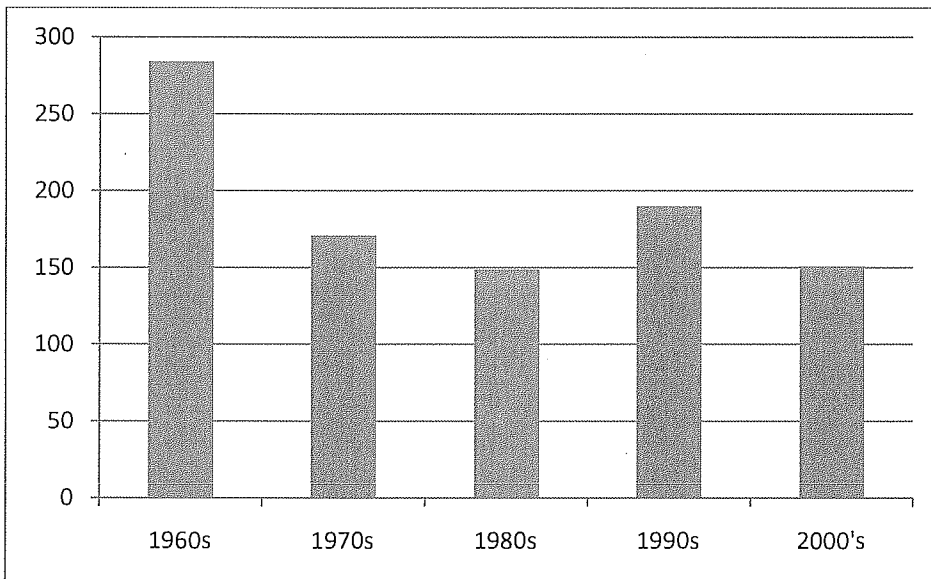
While the percentage of WELS members who belong to a church begun in 1960 or later is only 25.7%, the percentage of congregations that make up the synod is much higher. Of the 1,279 congregations in the WELS, 524 of them are churches begun in 1960 or later. That is about 41% of our total WELS congregations



Current WELS congregations	
Congregations begun in 1960 or later	524
Congregations begun before 1960	755

**Continued growth in our new churches**

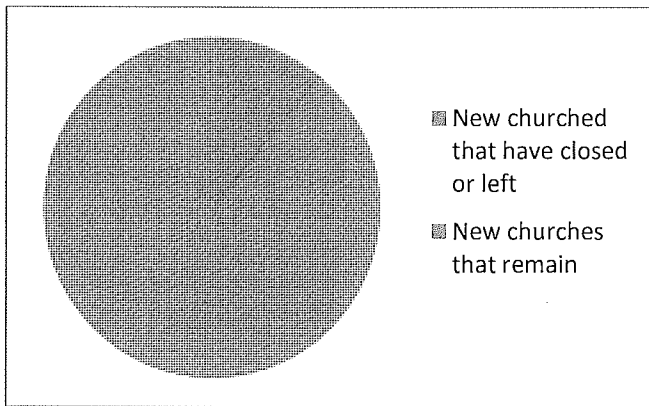
The average membership at a WELS church is 304. Below you can see the average WELS church membership by decade.



Current Growth	
1960s	284
1970s	171
1980s	149
1990s	190
2000's	151
Average WELS church	304

**Closed congregations**

Some of our churches have not grown as we would have wished. We know that the Lord of the harvest will always accomplish his plans and we praise him for the 89% of churches that were organized that are still with us today.



Closed Congregations	
New churches that have closed or left	65
New churches that remain	524

**An analysis of new church starts in the WELS**

If the WELS was made up of only churches that were opened before 1960 our synod membership would be 290,943. This would leave our synod smaller than it was 1960. With no new church openings our synod would have experienced a loss of 55,847 or 1,117 per year. For various reasons there is a natural decay in all churches.

If we look at the average growth of churches started in the last 50 years we find that these churches have grown an average of 8.3 members per year. Therefore, if we want to keep our membership in the WELS near the 400,000 baptized souls it is reasonable to conclude that we should plan on opening at least five new churches every year. This number is assuming that five new churches are opened year after year and that they grow at an average of 8.3 members per year for thirty years and that only 10% of our new churches will close. These five new churches per year will only help us to remain at around 400,000 baptized souls. If we want to grow as a church body we will need to open more than just five new churches a year.

### **Concluding Remarks**

For a variety of reasons some churches will close and have declining membership. Populations shift. People who once found work in states like Michigan and Ohio are now finding work in states like Alabama and Arizona. Satan also works against the church as he in a number of ways attacks the flock. If we want to continue to carry out the mission of strengthening the souls God has entrusted to the WELS and also bringing his Word to the world we will need to be opening new churches. This is part of a good stewardship of the many gifts God has given to us as a church body. It is my hope that this paper gives evidence of the great things God has done and can give some guidance as we go forward.

## An index of new church starts by year since 1960

1960	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Bethlehem	Menomonee Falls	WI	SEWI	1960	1635	
Christ	Lodi	CA	AC	1960	105	no synodical support
Hope	Hartford	MI	MI	1960	59	
Our Savior	Bismarck	ND	DM	1960	166	
Peace	Santa Clara	CA	AC	1960	46	
St. Mark	De Pere/Green Bay	WI	NWI	1960	2,111	
St. Mark's	Iron River	MI	NWI	1960	41	

1961	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Christ the Lord	Brookfield	WI	SEWI	1961	704	
Emmaus	Phoenix	AZ	AC	1961	348	
Grace	San Carlos	AZ	AC	1961	650	
Redeemer	Tomahawk	WI	NWI	1961	331	
Trinity	Morenci	AZ	AC	1961	0	closed

1962	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Gethsemane	Tigard	OR	PNW	1962	52	
Grace	Alma	MI	MI	1962	0	closed
King of Kings	Garden Grove	CA	AC	1962	333	
Mt. Calvary	San Jose	CA	AC	1962	0	closed
Our Savior	Monte Vista	CO	NE	1962	15	
St. Mark	Sauk Village	IL	SEWI	1962	0	left WELS
St. Paul	Stockton	KS	NE	1962	0	closed

1963	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Calvary	Eaton Rapids	MI	MI	1963	179	
Christ the King	La Habra/Whittier	CA	AC	1963	0	closed
Cross of Christ	Coon Rapids	MN	MN	1963	585	
Gloria Dei	Belmont	CA	AC	1963	135	
Our Redeemer	Grant Park	IL	SEWI	1963	55	
Peace of Our Savior	New Carlisle	OH	MI	1963	117	
Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach	FL	SA	1963	104	
St. Matthew	Edmonton	AB	DM	1963	0	closed

1964	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Calvary	Dallas	TX	SC	1964	476	
Good Shepherd	Burnsville	MN	MN	1964	834	
Holy Trinity	Des Moines/Kent	WA	PNW	1964	526	
Immanuel	Willmar	MN	MN	1964	300	
Mountain View	Great Falls	MT	DM	1964	91	
Mt. Zion	Hillsboro	TX	SC	1964	11	
Our Savior	Freeport	IL	WWI	1964	107	
Prince of Peace	Yucaipa/Redland	CA	AC	1964	35	
Redeemer	Merritt Island	FL	SA	1964	75	
Reformation	San Diego	CA	AC	1964	375	
Salem	Scottsdale	AZ	AC	1964	85	
St. Mark	Duncanville	TX	SC	1964	106	
St. Paul	Columbus	NE	NE	1964	0	closed
St. Stephen	Kalamazoo	MI	MI	1964	0	left WELS
Wis. Luth. Chapel	Madison	WI	WWI	1964	202	



1965	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Alpine	Alpine	CA	AC	1965	30	
Apostles	San Jose	CA	AC	1965	870	
Ascension	Moorhead	MN	DM	1965	167	
Bethlehem	Benson	AZ	AC	1965	30	
Christ Our Redeemer	Aurora/Denver	CO	NE	1965	364	
Cutter Ridge	Miami	FL	MI	1965	0	closed
Faith	Reedsburg	WI	WWI	1965	267	
Faith	Elizabeth	IL	WWI	1965	101	
Gloria Dei	Tinley Park	IL	SEWI	1965	46	
Grace	Falls Church	VA	NA	1965	572	
Holy Cross	Tucson	AZ	AC	1965	310	
Hope	Saint Charles	MI	MI	1965	344	
Hope	Portland	MI	MI	1965	48	
King of Kings	Willoughby	OH	MI	1965	82	
Mt. Calvary	Redding	CA	AC	1965	303	
Mt. Olive	Overland Park	KS	NE	1965	455	
Our Savior	Grafton	WI	SEWI	1965	865	
Redeemer	Edna	TX	SC	1965	178	
Shepherd of the Hills	La Mesa	CA	AC	1965	180	
St. John	Wetaskiwin	AB	DM	1965	40	
St. Mark	Brown Deer	WI	SEWI	1965	146	
St. Mark's	Citrus Heights	CA	AC	1965	830	
St. Michaelis	Milwaukee	WI	SEWI	1965	16	no synodical support
St. Peter	Saint Albert	AB	DM	1965	100	
St. Thomas	Phoenix	AZ	AC	1965	477	
Zion	Denver	CO	NE	1965	503	

1966	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Atonement	Baltimore	MD	NA	1966	143	
Beautiful Savior	Grove City	OH	MI	1966	319	
Christ Our Savior	Ordway	OR	PNW	1966	0	closed
Christ the Lord	Houston	TX	SC	1966	568	no synodical support
Divine Savior	Shawano	WI	NWI	1966	309	
Faith	Russell	KS	NE	1966	0	closed
Gethsemane	Davenport	IA	WWI	1966	151	
Grace	Waupan	WI	NWI	1966	288	
Hope	Cuyahoga Falls	OH	MI	1966	0	closed
Lamb of God	Madison	AL	SA	1966	149	
Messiah	Wichita	KS	NE	1966	154	
Our Savior	San Antonio	TX	SC	1966	336	
Our Savior's	East Brunswick	NJ	NA	1966	106	
Shepherd of the Hills	Duluth	MN	MN	1966	191	
St. James	Prairie Du Sac	WI	WWI	1966	192	
St. Luke	Little Chute	WI	NWI	1966	340	
St. Matthew	Spokane	WA	PNW	1966	244	

1967	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Apostles of Christ	Wauwatosa	WI	SEWI	1967	54	no synodical support
Bethany	Concord	CA	AC	1967	0	closed
Faith	Sussex	WI	SEWI	1967	716	
Faith	Lancaster	WI	WWI	1967	33	
Gethsemane	Oklahoma City	OK	SC	1967	188	
Immanuel	Salem	OR	PNW	1967	290	
King of Kings	Maitland	FL	SA	1967	305	
Martin Luther	Saint Louis	MO	MN	1967	258	
Peace	King of Prussia	PA	NA	1967	132	
Prince of Peace	Thousand Oaks	CA	AC	1967	105	
Redeemer	Hunstville	AL	MI	1967	0	closed
Shepherd	Albuquerque	NM	AC	1967	362	
St. James	Portage	MI	MI	1967	252	
St. Mark	Eau Claire	WI	WWI	1967	771	
Star of Bethlehem	New Berlin	WI	SEWI	1967	1130	no synodical support

1968	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Divine Peace	Renton	WA	PNW	1968	54	
Faith	Prior Lake	MN	MN	1968	123	
Faith	Anchorage	AK	PNW	1968	250	
Hope	Spearfish	SD	DM	1968	122	
Hope	Belvidere	IL	SEWI	1968	37	
Messiah	South Windsoe	CT	NA	1968	141	
Mt. Sinai	Montrose	MI	MI	1968	173	
Our Savior's	South Shore	SD	DM	1968	313	
Petra	Sauk Rapids	MN	MN	1968	315	
Resurrection	Chesapeake	VA	NA	1968	366	
St. Paul	Alexandria	MN	MN	1968	193	

1969	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Apostles	Billings	MT	DM	1969	311	
Ascension	Escondido	CA	AC	1969	162	
Beautiful Savior	Carlsbad	CA	AC	1969	273	
Beautiful Savior	Fort Wayne	IN	SEWI	1969	214	
Christ	Baxter	MN	MN	1969	237	
Christ Our Savior	Angleton	TX	SC	1969	63	
Christ the King	Palatine	IL	SEWI	1969	204	
Divine Savior	Indianapolis	IN	SEWI	1969	212	
Faith	Excelsior	MN	MN	1969	148	
Faith	Pittsfield	MA	NA	1969	110	
Grace	Seward	NE	NE	1969	62	
Lamb of God	Columbus	OH	MI	1969	126	
Our Savior	Brookings	SD	DM	1969	407	
Our Savior	Birmingham	AL	SA	1969	77	
Our Shepherd	Lancaster	CA	AC	1969	85	
Peace	Holiday	FL	SA	1969	150	
Prince of Peace	Howell	MI	MI	1969	285	
Resurrection	Auroa	IL	SEWI	1969	345	
St. Luke	Jackson	MI	MI	1969	130	
Trinity	El Paso	TX	AC	1969	223	
Zion	Kebuna	B.C	PNW	1969	0	closed
Zion	Torrance	CA	AC	1969	123	

1970	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Word	Houston	TX	SC	1970	563	
Community/St. Paul	Honolulu	HI	AC	1970	103	
Cross of Christ	Kingman	AZ	AC	1970	176	
Crown of Life	Hubertus	WI	SEWI	1970	397	
Holy Word	Austin	TX	SC	1970	74	
Hope	Danbury	CN	MI	1970	0	closed
Immanuel	Fort Worth	TX	SC	1970	245	
King of Kings	Kennewick	WA	PNW	1970	270	
Lord of Life	Friendswood	TX	SC	1970	239	
Mt. Calvary	San Jose	CA	AC	1970	0	closed
Our Savior	Jacksonville	FL	SA	1970	0	closed
Our Shepherd	Val-Des-Monts	QC	NA	1970	47	no synodical support
Prince of Peace	Yuma	AZ	AC	1970	77	
Redeemer	Pierre	SD	DM	1970	95	
Redeemer	Cedarburg	WI	SEWI	1970	143	
Shepherd of the Valley	Fresno	CA	AC	1970	0	closed
Sola Scriptura	Atlanta	GA	SA	1970	0	closed to become Abiding Grace
St. Paul	Riverside	CA	AC	1970	11	
St. Peter	Fort Collins	CO	NE	1970	242	

1971	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	Cincinnati	OH	MI	1971	425	
Bethany	North Fort Meyers	FL	SA	1971	138	
Christ Our Redeemer	Bend	OR	PNW	1971	50	
Divine Peace	Largo	MD	NA	1971	264	
Divine Word	Plover	WI	WWI	1971	458	
Faith	West Newton	PA	MI	1971	92	
Faith	River Falls	WI	MN	1971	161	
Gloria Dei	Grand Blanc	MI	MI	1971	307	
Hope	Irmo	SC	SA	1971	219	
Mt. Olive	Tulsa	OK	SC	1971	131	
Rock of Ages	Madison	TN	SA	1971	133	
Shepherd of the Hills	Inver Grove Heights	MN	MN	1971	177	
Trinity	Mc Cook	NE	NE	1971	19	

1972	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Amazing Grace	Taylor	MI	MI	1972	0	closed
Beautiful Savior	Corvallis	OR	PNW	1972	52	
Christ the King	Bremerton	WA	PNW	1972	338	
Crown of Life	New Orleans	LA	SA	1972	139	
Faith	Kokomo	IN	SEWI	1972	122	restarted in 2008
Good Shepherd	Vallejo	CA	AC	1972	97	
Good Shepherd	Midland	MI	MI	1972	442	
Hope	Indian River	MI	MI	1972	50	
Immanuel	St. Joseph	MO	MN	1972	0	closed
King of Kings	Clifton Park	NY	NA	1972	231	
Mt. Zion	Jacksonville	IL	SEWI	1972	0	closed
Our Redeemer	Santa Barbara	CA	AC	1972	108	
Our Savior	Sun City	AZ	AC	1972	108	
Peace	Granger	IN	SEWI	1972	0	closed
Peace	Love's Park	IL	SEWI	1972	250	
Prince of Peace	Yankton	SD	DM	1972	71	
Prince of Peace	Salt Lake City	UT	NE	1972	355	
Redemption	West Palm Beach	FL	MI	1972	0	closed
Shining Mountains	Bozeman	MT	DM	1972	81	
St. John	Victorville	CA	AC	1972	130	
St. Paul	Grand Junction	CO	NE	1972	110	
Triune God	Ramsey	NJ	MI	1972	0	closed
Zion	Gainesville	FL	SA	1972	111	

1973	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Savior	Weslaco	TX	SC	1973	65	
Christ	Holland	MI	MI	1973	0	closed
East Fork	White River	AZ	AC	1973	400	
Faith	Huron	SD	DM	1973	33	
Faith	Harrison	MI	MI	1973	68	
Gethsemane	Raleigh	NC	NA	1973	112	
Gethsemane	Corpus Christi	TX	SC	1973	160	
Gloria Dei	Memphis	TN	SA	1973	170	
Glory	De Soto	TX	AC	1973	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Girard	OH	MI	1973	28	
Good Shepherd	Cheyenne	WY	NE	1973	199	
Good Shepherd	South Attleboro	MA	NA	1973	173	
Good Shepherd	East Providence/Rumford/South Attleboro	MA/RI	NA	1973	173	
Hope	West Chicago	IL	SEWI	1973	172	
Hope	Louisville	IL	SEWI	1973	139	
Immanuel	Lakeside/McNay	AZ	AC	1973	152	
Immanuel	Springerville	AZ	AC	1973	55	
King of Kings	Alexandria	LA	SC	1973	66	
Living Word	Mission Viejo	CA	AC	1973	144	
Messiah	Nampa	ID	PNW	1973	291	
Mt. Olive	Las Vegas	NV	AC	1973	221	
Mt. Olive	Green Bay	WI	NWI	1973	330	
Peace	Shenandoah	IA	NE	1973	20	no synodical support (daughtered)
Peace	Cape Girardeau	MO	MN	1973	0	closed
Risen Savior	Milwaukee	WI	SEWI	1973	410	no synodical support
Salem	Colorado Springs	CO	NE	1973	285	
St. Andrew	Elgin	IL	SEWI	1973	0	restarted as Abiding Peace in 1995
St. John	Newark	DE	NA	1973	198	
St. Mark	Benidji	MN	MN	1973	234	
Star of Bethlehem	Savoy	IL	WWI	1973	89	

1974	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Word	Orleans	ON	NA	1974	178	
Ascension	Mitchell	SD	DM	1974	69	
Bethany	Gibsonia	PA	MI	1974	97	
Cross of Glory	Washington	MI	MI	1974	297	
Divine Grace	Lake Orion	MI	MI	1974	397	
Grace of God	Dix Hills	NY	NA	1974	64	
Holy Cross	Oklahoma City	OK	SC	1974	244	
Hope	Freemont	CA	AC	1974	0	left WELS
Lord and Savior	Crystal Lake	IL	SEWI	1974	337	
New Hope	Racine	WI	SEWI	1974	73	no synodical support
Peace	Vancouver	WA	PNW	1974	182	
Saving Grace/Living Word	Mobile	AL	SA	1974	110	
Shepherd of the Valley	Westminster	CO	NE	1974	397	
St. Andrew	Sacramento	CA	AC	1974	75	
St. Mark	Normal	IL	WWI	1974	136	
St. Paul	Beverly Hills	FL	SA	1974	195	
Trinity	Temple	TX	SC	1974	81	

1975	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Bethlehem	Lakeville	MN	MN	1975	440	
Cross of Christ	Liverpool	NY	NA	1975	81	
Emmanuel	Owatonna	MN	MN	1975	200	
Emmanuel	Hudson	WI	MN	1975	109	
Gloria Dei	Sierra Madre	CA	AC	1975	0	closed
Grace	Columbia	MO	MN	1975	40	
Grace	Spring Hill	FL	SA	1975	130	
Living Word	Petaluma	CA	AC	1975	49	
Messiah	Shiocton	WI	NWI	1975	270	
Our Savior	Gaylord	MI	MI	1975	50	
Our Savior	Burlington	IA	WWI	1975	89	
Our Savior's	East Wenatchee	WA	PNW	1975	89	
Our Shepherd	Crown Point	IN	SEWI	1975	114	
Paradise Valley	Phoenix	AZ	AC	1975	110	
Prince of Peace	Twisp	WA	PNW	1975	17	
Prince of Peace	Englewood	FL	SA	1975	42	
Prince of Peace	Dubuque	IA	MN	1975	0	closed
Redeemer	Lovelock	NV	AC	1975	19	
Rock of Ages	Kansas City	MO	NE	1975	186	
Shepherd of the Hills	Tucson	AZ	AC	1975	383	
Shepherd of the Hills	Lansing	MI	MI	1975	492	
Shepherd of the Hills	Greeley	CO	NE	1975	172	
Shepherd of the Mountains	Reno	NV	AC	1975	139	
Shepherd of the Plains	Lubbock	TX	SC	1975	75	
St. Andrew	Middleton	WI	WWI	1975	747	
St. Paul	Amherst	NH	NA	1975	149	
Syndoulos	Fairbanks	AK	PNW	1975	63	



1976	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Ascension	Rochester	MN	MN	1976	440	
Ascension	Antigo	WI	NWI	1976	221	
Beautiful Savior	Eagan	MN	MN	1976	140	
Beautiful Savior	Summerville	SC	SA	1976	281	
Bethel	Galesville	WI	WWI	1976	236	
Christ	Cambridge	MN	MN	1976	177	
Christ	Eden Prairie	MN	MN	1976	164	
Christ Our Savior	Springfield	IL	SEWI	1976	0	closed
Christ the Lord	Clearwater	FL	SA	1976	157	
Divine Savior	Pullman	WA	PNW	1976	17	
Faith	Lima	OH	MI	1976	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Plymouth	WI	NWI	1976	247	
Good Shepherd	Downers Grove	IL	SEWI	1976	589	
Grace	Yorba Linda	CA	AC	1976	175	
Holy Redeemer	Port Huron	MI	MI	1976	160	
Holy Scripture	Fort Wayne	IN	SEWI	1976	83	
Nathanael	Milwaukee	WI	SEWI	1976	64	
Our Savior	Ashland	OH	MI	1976	0	closed
Our Savior	Hollidaysburg	PA	MI	1976	0	closed
Peace	Eagle River	AK	PNW	1976	117	
Redeemer	Norton	KS	NE	1976	46	
Shepherd of Peace	Norfolk	NE	NE	1976	133	
Shepherd of the Verde Valley	Sedona	AZ	AC	1976	0	closed
St. Stephen	Fallbrook	CA	AC	1976	159	

1977	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Ascension	Harrisburg	PA	NA	1977	112	
Ascension	Sarasota	FL	SA	1977	241	
Calvary	Chandler	AZ	AC	1977	369	
Calvary	Canyon Country	CA	AC	1977	61	
Christ	Imlay City	MI	MI	1977	131	
Gethsemane	Lees Summit	MO	NE	1977	189	
Good Shepherd	Holmen	WI	WWI	1977	399	
Hope of the Valley	Pocatello	ID	DM	1977	0	closed
Immanuel	Taylor	AZ	AC	1977	74	
King of Kings	Scottsbluff	NE	NE	1977	47	
King of Kings	Little Rock	AR	SC	1977	41	
Mt. Zion	Missoula	MT	DM	1977	104	
Peace	Boulder	CO	NE	1977	77	
Prince of Peace	Reynoldsburg	OH	MI	1977	0	closed
Resurrection	Centerville	OH	MI	1977	158	
Salina	Aurora	KS	NE	1977	80	
Shepherd of the Hills	Knoxville	TN	SA	1977	117	
Sola Fide	Lawrenceville	GA	SA	1977	484	
St. Luke	Grand Rapids	MN	MN	1977	117	
St. Peter	Modesto	CA	AC	1977	291	

1978	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Grace	Greenville/Simpsonville	SC	SA	1978	190	
Ascension	Plymouth	MN	MN	1978	297	
Beautiful Savior	Oneill	NE	NE	1978	47	
Crown of Life	Fort Myers	FL	SA	1978	116	
Divine Word	Nepean	ON	NA	1978	136	
Garden of Gethsemane	Omaha	NE	NE	1978	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Jacksonville	FL	SA	1978	206	
Grace	Prairie Du Chien	WI	WWI	1978	158	
Hope	Penryn	CA	AC	1978	228	
James Valley	Jamestown	ND	DM	1978	24	
Our Savior	Strongsville	OH	MI	1978	172	
Redeemer	Big Rapids	MI	MI	1978	76	
Reformation	Dousman	WI	SEWI	1978	427	
Risen Savior	Chula Vista	CA	AC	1978	144	
Shepherd of the Lakes	Fairmont	MN	MN	1978	104	
Star of Bethlehem	Santa Maria	CA	AC	1978	126	
Trinity	Sierra Vista	AZ	AC	1978	131	
1979	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes

Beautiful Savior	Topeka	KS	NE	1979	97	
Christ Our Savior	Fremont	NE	NE	1979	10	
Christ Redeemer	Trumbell	CT	NA	1979	97	
Emmanuel	Zephyrhills	FL	SA	1979	48	
Faith	Mount Pleasant	MI	MI	1979	274	
Gethsemane	Wichita Falls	TX	SC	1979	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Beaverton	MI	MI	1979	155	
Good Shepherd	Beckley	WV	MI	1979	0	closed
Grace	Hot Springs	SD	DM	1979	19	
Grace	Kenai	AK	PNW	1979	123	
Grace	Sitka	AK	PNW	1979	11	
Our Savior	Englewood	OH	MI	1979	0	closed
Prince of Peace	Martinez	GA	SA	1979	217	
Redeemer	Rice Lake	WI	WWI	1979	182	
St. Mark	Leesburg	FL	SA	1979	95	

1980	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	El Paso	TX	SC	1980	0	closed
Bethel	York/Waco	NE	NE	1980	105	no synodical support
Christ	Keystone Heights	FL	SA	1980	52	
Christ the Redeemer	Barre	VT	NA	1980	60	
Deer Valley	Phoenix	AZ	AC	1980	364	
Divine Word	Midwest City	OK	SC	1980	0	closed
Faith	El Paso	TX	SC	1980	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Midland	TX	SC	1980	19	
New Hope	West Melbourne	FL	SA	1980	225	
Our Savior	Perry	MI	MI	1980	131	
Our Savior	Hendersonville	NC	SA	1980	0	closed
Rock of Ages	Payson	AZ	AC	1980	131	no synodical support
St. Matthew	Port Washington	WI	SEWI	1980	277	
Valley View	Helena	MT	DM	1980	100	

1981	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
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Abiding Faith	Pinehurst	TX	SC	1981	90	
Bethlehem	Manassas	VA	NA	1981	269	
Christ	Merrill	WI	WWI	1981	222	
Christ the King	Washington	KS	NE	1981	2	no synodical support
Good Shepherd	Novi	MI	MI	1981	175	
Good Shepherd	China Grove	NC	NA	1981	73	
Lord of Lords	Casper	WY	NE	1981	57	
Saved by Grace	Medford	OR	PNW	1981	0	closed

1982	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Grace	Charlotte	NC	NA	1982	187	
Our Savior	Springville	NY	NA	1982	158	
Our Savior	Arlington	TX	SC	1982	132	
Prince of Peace	Fairport	NY	NA	1982	116	
Prince of Peace	Flower Mound	TX	SC	1982	124	
Prince of Peace	Lehigh Acres	FL	SA	1982	0	closed
Shepherd of Peace	Powell	OH	MI	1982	220	
Shepherd of the Springs	Coral Springs	FL	SA	1982	0	closed
St. Paul	Calgary	AB	DM	1982	77	

1983	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Word	Highlands Ranch	CO	NE	1983	275	
Atonement	Plano	TX	SC	1983	224	
Beautiful Savior	Marietta	GA	SA	1983	374	
Beautiful Savior	College Station	TX	SC	1983	107	
Christ Our Redeemer	Gillette	WY	DM	1983	125	
Crown of Glory	Orlando	FL	SA	1983	164	
Faith	Columbus	MS	SA	1983	30	
Faith	Russellville	AR	SC	1983	28	
Good Shepherd	Saint Peters	MO	MN	1983	215	
King of Kings	Apache Junction	AZ	AC	1983	131	
Our Hope	Chippewa Falls	WI	WWI	1983	208	
Peace	Milbank	SD	AC	1983	92	
Prince of Peace	Traverse City	MI	MI	1983	217	
Trinity	Ridgecrest	CA	AC	1983	16	

1984	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	Gray/Portland	ME	NA	1984	31	
Christ Our Redeemer	San Diego	CA	AC	1984	0	closed
Cross of Glory	Baton Rouge	LA	SA	1984	84	
Faith	Pittsburg	KS	NE	1984	90	no synodical support
Good Shepherd	Kearney	NE	NE	1984	100	
Grace	Kenai	AK	PNW	1984	123	
Immanuel	Long Valley/Succasunna	NJ	NA	1984	131	
King of Kings	Wasilla	AK	PNW	1984	140	
Lord of Life	Thornton	CO	NE	1984	513	
Our Savior's	Port Orange/Daytona Beach	FL	SA	1984	201	
Peace	Rio Rancho	NM	AC	1984	82	
Peace	Hayward	WI	WWI	1984	149	
Prince of Peace	Houston	TX	SC	1984	129	
Risen Savior	Austin	TX	SC	1984	123	
Shepherd of the Hills	Anchorage	AK	PNW	1984	171	
St. Peter	Clovis	CA	AC	1984	102	

1985	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Faith	Forth Worth	TX	SC	1985	166	
Abiding Love	Cape Coral	FL	SA	1985	282	
Abiding Word	Maineville	OH	MI	1985	133	
Blessed Savior	Sugarland	TX	SC	1985	0	closed
Crown of Life	Marietta	OH	MI	1985	99	
Good Shepherd	Deltona	FL	SA	1985	254	
Hope	Chino	AZ	AC	1985	107	
Living Water	Dawson	MN	MN	1985	24	
Peace	Cottonwood	AZ	AC	1985	183	
Shepherd of the Hills	Custer	SD	DM	1985	21	

1986	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Hope	Oclala	FL	SA	1986	114	
Cross of Christ	Universal City	TX	SC	1986	267	
Cross of Christ	Portage	WI	WWI	1986	187	
Living Hope	Omaha	NE	NE	1986	123	
Our Redeemer	Yorktown	VA	NA	1986	127	
Resurrection	Maumee/Toledo	OH	MI	1986	168	
Shepherd of the Hills	Fredericksburg	TX	SC	1986	66	
Shepherd of the Palms	Jupiter	FL	SA	1986	0	

1987	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Savior	Elk River	MN	MN	1987	182	
Beautiful Savior	Fayetteville	NC	NA	1987	61	
Emmanuel	Las Cruces	NM	AC	1987	130	
Grace	Lowell/Springdale	AR	SC	1987	310	
Messiah	Alpharetta	GA	SA	1987	153	
New Life	Lake Zurich/Bufalo Grove	IL	SEWI	1987	122	
Peace	Sahuarita	AZ	AC	1987	51	
Rock of Ages	Gordon	NE	NE	1987	17	

1988	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Amazing Grace	Panama City	FL	SA	1988	119	
Christ	Prescott Valley	AZ	AC	1988	164	
Christ the Rock	Everett	WA	PNW	1988	0	closed
Good Shepherd	Livermore/Pleasanton	CA	AC	1988	118	
Good Shepherd	Wisconsin Rapids	WI	WWI	1988	325	
Lord and Savior	Waunakee	WI	WWI	1988	0	Closed but re-opened as part of St. Andrew's Middleton

1989	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Peace	Streamwood/Elgin	IL	SEWI	1989	116	
Fount of Life	Colorado Springs	CO	NE	1989	297	
Good Shepherd	Lafayette	IN	SEWI	1989	0	closed
Heritage	Gilbert	AZ	AC	1989	302	
New Life	Shoreview	MN	MN	1989	196	
Our Redeemer	Ladysmith	WI	WWI	1989	48	no synodical support
Peace	New York	NY	SA	1989	0	closed

1990	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	Green Bay	WI	NWI	1990	452	
Christ Our Savior	Sterling	VA	NA	1990	32	
Christ Our Savior	Grand Rapids	MI	MI	1990	540	
Green Valley	Henderson	NV	AC	1990	679	
Heritage	Lindenhurst	IL	SEWI	1990	99	
Hope	Toronto	ON	NA	1990	133	
Living Water	Hot Springs	AR	SC	1990	35	no synodical support
Peace	Houghton	MI	MI	1990	119	
Redeemer	Roswell	NM	AC	1990	49	

1991	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
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Divine Savior	Miami/Doral	FL	SA	1991	207	restarted in 2004
Eternal Love	Appleton	WI	NWI	1991	324	
Faith	Rising City	NE	NE	1991	183	no synodical support
Good Shepherd	The Woodlands	TX	SC	1991	311	
Messiah	Olympia	WA	PNW	1991	134	
New Life	Rockford	IL	SEWI	1991	207	
Redeemer	Maple Grove	MN	MN	1991	283	
Trinity	Mountain Home	AR	SC	1991	120	

1992	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abundant Life	Saskatoon	SK	DM	1992	51	
Amazing Grace	Florence	KY	MI	1992	105	
Beautiful Savior	Petoskey	MI	MI	1992	96	
Beautiful Savior	Everett	WA	PNW	1992	136	
Christ	Juneau	AK	PNW	1992	110	
Christ Our Savior	Columbia	TN	SA	1992	481	
Christ the Lord	Cottage Grove	MN	MN	1992	151	
Christ the Vine	Temecula	CA	AC	1992	212	
Good Shepherd	Pipestone	MN	MN	1992	59	no synodical support
Grace	Scroggins	TX	SC	1992	82	no synodical support
King of Kings	Suffolk	VA	NA	1992	0	closed
Living Hope	Midlothian	VA	NA	1992	150	
Our Savior	Kasson	MN	MN	1992	172	
Trinity	Woodbridge	VA	NA	1992	128	

1993	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Ascension	Jacksonville	NC	NA	1993	94	
Beautiful Savior	Spooner	WI	WWI	1993	189	
Christ	Clarksville/Columbia	MD	NA	1993	107	
Christ Our Rock	Rochester	MN	MN	1993	285	
Hope	Andover	MN	MN	1993	207	
Lord of Love	De Forest	WI	WWI	1993	514	
Mighty Fortress	Red Deer	AB	DM	1993	42	
Mountain of the Lord	Wausau	WI	WWI	1993	328	
Peace	Marshfield	MO	MN	1993	81	no synodical support
St. Martin	Roscommon	MI	MI	1993	58	no synodical support

1994	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
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Bethel	Sioux Falls	SD	DM	1994	367	no synodical support
Bethlehem	Carmel	IN	SEWI	1994	138	
Christ the King	Port Charlotte	FL	SA	1994	83	
Light of the Valley	Layton	UT	NE	1994	136	
Living Hope	Redmond	WA	PNW	1994	227	
Morning Star	Carstairs	AB	DM	1994	60	no synodical support
Mountain View	Calgary	AB	DM	1994	114	
Summerlin	Las Vegas	NV	AC	1994	278	

1995		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Living Savior	Valrico	FL	SA	1995	126		
Messiah	Green Bay	WI	NWI	1995	682		
Morning Star	Jackson	WI	SEWI	1995	692		no synodical support
Shepherd of the Valley	West Fargo	ND	DM	1995	176		

1996		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Love	Loveland	CO	NE	1996	191		
Cross of Christ	Boise	ID	PNW	1996	402		
Living Word	Gray	TN	SA	1996	264		
Risen Savior	Navarre	FL	SA	1996	155		
Cross and Crown	Georgetown	TX	SC	1996	97		
Shepherd of the Valley	Terre Haute	IN	SEWI	1996	46		
Risen Savior	Cedar Grove	WI	WWI	1996	0		closed

1997		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Lamb of God	Phoenix	AZ	AC	1997	127		
Holy Trinity	Kodiak	AK	PNW	1997	13		no synodical support
Amazing Grace	Milwaukie	OR	PNW	1997	224		no synodical support
Beautiful Savior	Bella Vista	AR	SC	1997	46		no synodical support
Living Water	Wind Lake	WI	SEWI	1997	380		
Victory in Christ	El Paso	TX	SC	1997	0		closed



1998	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	West Des Moines	IA	MN	1998	149	
Divine Peace	Garland	TX	SC	1998	195	
Grace	Minot	ND	DM	1998	12	
Living Savior	Littleton	CO	NE	1998	177	
St. John	Vacaville	CA	AC	1998	125	
Star of Bethlehem	Winston Salem	NC	NA	1998	136	

1999	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Beautiful Savior	Hillsboro	OR	PNW	1999	119	
Christ the Rock	Farmington	NM	NE	1999	165	
Faith	Radcliff	KY	SEWI	1999	145	
Mountain Valley	Eagle	CO	NE	1999	149	
Shepherd of the Hills	West Bend	WI	SEWI	1999	348	

2000	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Shepherd of the Valley	Surprise	AZ	AC	2000	226	
Hope	Manhattan	KS	NE	2000	70	
Tree of Life	Cary	NC	NA	2000	128	
Victory	Lexington	KY	SEWI	2000	86	
Christ Our Savior	Vermillion	SD	DM	2000	0	

2001	City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Cross of Glory	Peoria	AZ	AC	2001	247	
Faith	Sharpsburg	GA	SA	2001	343	
Faith	Tallahassee	FL	SA	2001	135	
Living Water	Oshkosh	WI	NWI	2001	323	
Loving Shepherd	Milwaukee	WI	SEWI	2001	661	An amalgamation of Trinity and St. John's
Our Savior	Roanoke	VA	NA	2001	91	
Risen Savior	Pooler	GA	SA	2001	141	
Risen Savior	Orlando	FL	SA	2001	355	
Risen Savior	Mc Farland	WI	WWI	2001	114	
Victory	Jacksonville	FL	SA	2001	176	

2002		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Savior	Killeen	TX	SC	2002	102		
Abiding Word	Rapid City	SD	DM	2002	62		
Apostles	Regina	SK	DM	2002	35		
Christ Our Redeemer	El Paso	TX	AC	2002	235		
Crown of Life	Pueblo West	CO	NE	2002	195		
Eternal Life	Concord	CA	AC	2002	33		no synodical support
Good Shepherd	Alma	MI	MI	2002	307		no synodical support
Hope	West Palm Beach	FL	SA	2002	219		
Living Savior	Asheville/Arden	NC	SA	2002	230		
Resurrection	Verona	WI	W/WI	2002	211		
Shepherd of the Bay	Lusby	MD	NA	2002	124		
Water of Life	Las Vegas	NV	AC	2002	288		

2003		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Grace	Covington	GA	SA	2003	162		
Apostles'	Dardenne Prairie	MO	MN	2003	148		
Bread of Life	Santa Ana	CA	AC	2003	64		
Cross of Life	Mississauga	ON	NA	2003	140		
Crown of Life	Corona	CA	AC	2003	264		
Crown of Life	West Saint Paul	MN	MN	2003	984		no synodical support
Hope	Rancho Cucamonga	CA	AC	2003	108		
Living Word	Waukesha	WI	SEWI	2003	188		
Open Bible	Oxford/Summerfield	FL	SA	2003	69		
Shepherd of the Lakes	Milford	IA	MN	2003	42		no synodical support

2004		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Abiding Faith	Smyrna	TN	SA	2004	186	from Sola Scriptura	
Chicago	St. Mark	IL	SEWI	2004	8	no synodical support	
Christ Our King	Lewistown	MT	DM	2004	50	no synodical support	
Crosswalk	Phoenix	AZ	AC	2004	211	no synodical support	
Divine Savior	Doral	FL	SA	2004	207		
Emmaus	Chicago	IL	SEWI	2004	33	no synodical support	
Hope	Oconomowoc	WI	WWI	2004	122		
Light of Life	Covington	WA	PNW	2004	139		
New Hope	Toledo	OH	MI	2004	139		
Sure Foundation	Woodside/Queens	NY	NA	2004	62		
Victory of the Lamb	Katy	TX	SC	2004	147		

2005		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Crossroads Christian Church	Chicago	IL	SEWI	2005	88		
Crown of Life	Cadillac	MI	MI	2005	74		
Mighty Fortress	Hiram	GA	SA	2005	146		
Risen Savior	Lakewood Ranch	FL	SA	2005	106		
Shepherd of the Hills	Winchester	VA	NA	2005	87		
St. Martin	Rapid River	MI	NWI	2005	93		
Valley	Sheridan	WY	NE	2005	37		

2006		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Crown of Life	Warren	MI	MI	2006	340	no synodical support	
Faith	Black River Falls	WI	WWI	2006	131	no synodical support	
Shepherd of the Plains	Fort Morgan	CO	NE	2006	89	no synodical support	
Victory of the Lamb	Franklin	WI	SEWI	2006	140		

2007		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Shepherd of the Lakes	Land O Lakes	FL	SA	2007	16		
St. Paul	Clintonville	WI	NWI	2007	132	no synodical support	

2008		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Amazing Love	New Lenox	IL	SEWI	2008	49		
Ascension	Crossville	TN	SA	2008	60		
Cross of Christ	Watertown	NY	NA	2008	0		
Living Word	Plainview	MN	MN	2008	34		
Shepherd in the Pines	McNary	AZ	AC	2008	25		
Shepherd of the Hills	Las Vegas	NV	AC	2008	66		
Shepherd of the Mesa	Battlement Mesa	CO	NE	2008	34		
The Point of Grace	Milwaukee	WI	SEWI	2008	37	support from WELS Campus Ministry	
The Springs	Sparks	NV	AC	2008	78		

2009		City	State	Dist.	Year	Membership	Notes
Light of Life	Greenwood	IN	SEWI	2009	3		